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***IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE***

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***PATENT***

In re application of: Venkatraman et al.

Attorney Docket No.: DEM1P005

Application No.: 09/741,959

Examiner: Patel, Jagdish

Filed: December 22, 2000

Group: 3693

Title: ECONOMETRIC OPTIMIZATION  
ENGINE

Confirmation No.: 7256

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***PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT***

Mail Stop: RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**April 26, 2007**

Dear Sir:

Please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 4 of this paper.